



PATENT / DOCKET NO. 31181.26
CUSTOMER NO. 27683

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 USC §101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-20 of prior U.S. Patent 6,221,074. Claim 1 has been amended in light of this rejection and a number of the dependent claims have been amended to more clearly focus on specific aspects of the present invention. Additionally, new claims 49-52 (identical to previously cancelled claims 45-48) are also presented for consideration in the present application.

It is believed that the claims are now in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is hereby respectfully requested. The undersigned would welcome a telephone call to discuss any issues which may remain.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Andrew Lowes".

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Printed Name	<u>J. Andrew Lowes</u>
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